

Appl. No. 10/606,616
Response to Office Action having a mailing date of July 22, 2005

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-8 and replace with the following claims 21-31:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) A polyvinyl chloride glove having improved fingertip puncture resistance comprising:

a palm portion having a palm thickness; and

a plurality of fingers extending from the palm portion, each finger having a fingertip distal to the palm portion,

wherein the fingertip has a fingertip thickness substantially equal to the palm thickness.

10. (Withdrawn) The glove of claim 9, wherein the fingertip thickness is from about 0.1 mm to about 0.2 mm.

11. (Withdrawn) The glove of claim 9, wherein the fingertip thickness is from about 0.11 mm to about 0.15 mm.

12. (Withdrawn) The glove of claim 9, wherein the fingertip thickness is about 0.12 mm.

13. (Withdrawn) The glove of claim 9, formed by method comprising:

providing a glove former, the former pivotably attached to a chain assembly;

dipping the former into a polyvinyl chloride resin plastisol in a first position, the position being substantially vertical;

removing the former from the plastisol;

pivotting the former to a second position, the second position forming an angle less than 90 degrees with respect to the first position; and

maintaining the former at the second position until the plastisol gels on the former.

14. (Withdrawn) The glove of claim 13, formed by the method further comprising heating the former while maintaining it at the second position.

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15. (Withdrawn) A method of determining fingertip puncture resistance in a glove comprising:

- preparing a glove fingertip sample;
- placing the sample onto a cylindrical sample mount;
- advancing a probe toward the sample;
- contacting the probe to the sample; and
- measuring the force required to perforate the sample.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further comprising measuring the thickness of the sample.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further comprising applying a powder to the fingertip sample.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further comprising clamping the fingertip sample to the cylindrical sample mount.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the probe is advanced toward the sample at from about 100 mm/min to about 800 mm/min.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the probe is advanced toward the sample at from about 400 mm/min to about 600 mm/min.

21. (New) A method for making an elastomeric article from a polymeric material, the method comprises:

- providing a mold with a longitudinal axis pivotably attached to a mechanical assembly;
- immersing said mold into either a plastisol or a polymer bath capable of forming a film without using a coagulant while oriented in a first position, the first position being substantially vertical;
- removing said mold from said plastisol;
- pivotng said mold to at least a second position while rotating said mold about said longitudinal axis, said second position forming an angle of less than about 90° with respect to said first position; and
- maintaining said mold in at least said second position while continuing to pivot and rotate, while in a fusion oven set at a temperature above gelation, until said plastisol or polymer solidifies.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said second position forms an angle between about 60° to about 85° relative to said first position.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein said second position forms an angle between about 70° to about 83° relative to said first position.

24. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said plastisol comprises a polyvinyl chloride resin.

25. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said polymer bath comprises a thermoplastic

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material including a styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymer, a nitrile butadiene polymer, or another polymer capable of forming a film without use of a coagulant.

26. (New) The method according to claim 21, further comprising preheating said mold to a temperature of about 38°C (100°F) to about 93°C (200°F) before dipping into said plastisol.
27. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said temperature of said fusion oven is set at a temperature of about 149°C (300°F) to about 260°C (500°F).
28. (New) The method according to claim 21, further comprises repeating said method with a series of compositions for a multi-layered article.
29. (New) The method according to claim 21, further comprises pivoting said mold through a series of positions.
30. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said article is a glove having a gel film thickness at a fingertip that is substantially equal to that of another part of said glove.
31. (New) A polymer glove having puncture-resistant fingertips made according to the method according to claim 1.